

The Two Merchants.

ARTHUR," said Mrs. Leeman, addressing her young husband, "it seems to me that Mr. Sharping is getting ahead of you in business."

Before Arthur Leeman retired that night he told his wife he would exert himself to outstrip his neighbor. A few evenings after that, as Arthur was returning home from his business he had occasion to pass his neighbor's store, and as he saw a light gleaming through the chinks of his shutters, he thought he would enter.

cheerful to him as usual. The neatly arranged shelves and boxes, and the choice goods did not look so inviting as was their wont. During the first part of the day he sold some common articles, such as calicoes, lawns, thread, etc., but it did not occur to him that even here he might have over-reached a single customer.

his wickedness had been detected, and that he should not have it in his power to make free restitution. But he was mistaken. The gentleman had only come for some stuff for lining and facing to the pants he was going to have made.

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